

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating information between heterogenous systems, the method comprising:

~~at least one of:~~

providing a publisher/subscriber architecture having a subscription manager for generating a subscription and acting as a subscriber on a first network, including a publisher/subscriber architecture for an entity on a second network, accepting a first information from the first network according to the subscription;

[[and]] transmitting the first information to the entity in accordance with the subscription, [[and]]

using a publication manager of the publisher/subscriber architecture to accept [[accepting]] a second information from the entity, and to act [acting] as a publisher of the second information for the [[first]] entity to at least one remote entity; and

for at least one of the publisher and subscriber operations, using the publisher/subscriber architecture to automatically register the entity to implement one of the publishing and subscription operations without a registration action by the entity.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising time division multiplexing information with the entity.

3. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising fusing the first information and a third information and transmitting the fused information.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 3, wherein the first information and the third informations information are transmitted at different rates.

5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising translating the first information from a protocol associated with the first information and a second protocol associated with the second information, the first and the second protocols being different.

6. (Original) The method according to Claim 5, wherein the first protocol is a TDM protocol and the second protocol is an Internet Protocol.

7. (Original) The method according to Claim 5, further comprising using XML to translate between the first protocol and the second protocol.

8. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising validating the second information by comparing the protocol associated with the second information against an expected protocol for the second information.

9. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein the validating further comprises using an XSD schema.

10. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, further comprising ignoring subsequent messages from the same source if the validation failed.

11. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising accepting a request for a changed subscription from the entity and changing the subscription, whereby dynamic subscription registration occurs.

12. (Currently Amended) An agent, to be interposed between a first network and a second network, the agent comprising:

an interface to an entity, the entity interface including a first protocol for communicating with the entity over the first network; and

an interface to a publisher/subscriber architecture on the second network, the publish/subscribe publisher/subscriber architecture including:

a publication manager that determines what remote entity is to receive a first quantity of information that is received by the agent from the entity and published by the agent; and

a subscription manager that establishes at least one subscription for the entity to receive publications from at least one remote entity.

~~interface to include a service to act as a publisher for the entity and a service to act as a subscriber for the entity.~~

13. (Original) The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising a translator to translate between the first protocol and a second protocol associated with the second network, the first and the second protocols being different.

14. (Original) The agent according to Claim 12, wherein the translator being based on XML.

15. (Original) The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising an information fuser wherein the fuser to fuse information from at least two sources, the sources being associated with at least one of the first network and the second network.

16. (Currently Amended) The agent according to Claim 15, wherein the information fuser being configured to accept information from the first and second sources at different rates.

17. (Currently Amended) The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising[[,]] a registration manager to register the first entity as at least one of a publisher and a subscriber.

18. (Currently Amended) The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising[[,]] a validation manager to validate information received from the second network.

19. (Currently Amended) The agent according to Claim 18, wherein the validation manager is adapted to validate the information by comparing the protocol associated with the information received from the second network with an expected protocol for information received from the second network.

20. (Original) The agent according to Claim 19, further comprising an XSD schema used by the validation manager to validate the information received from the second network.

21. (Original) The agent according to Claim 12, wherein the entity interface is a TDM interface.

22. (Original) The agent according to Claim 12, wherein the second network interface includes an Internet interface.

23. (Original) The agent according to Claim 12, further comprising being implemented in at least one of hardware, firmware, and software.

24. (Currently Amended) A communications network, comprising
a first network having a first protocol;
an entity configured to use the first protocol to communicate over the first
network; and
an agent associated with the first network interposed between the first network
and a second network including a publisher/subscriber architecture, the agent adapted
to act as ~~at least one of:~~
a publisher for the entity for a first information to be transmitted by the entity, and
a subscriber for the entity for a second information to be transmitted to the agent.

25. (Original) The network according to Claim 24, further comprising:
a third network in communication with the second network and providing the
second information.

26. (Original) The network according to Claim 24, further comprising:
a third network in communication with the second network and subscribing for
the first information.

27. (Original) The network according to Claim 24, wherein the first protocol is
a TDM protocol.

28. (Original) The network according to Claim 27, wherein the first protocol is TADIL-J.

29. (Original) The network according to Claim 27, wherein the first protocol is VMF.

30. (Currently Amended) The network according to Claim 24, the agent further comprising [[an]] a translator for translating between the first protocol and a second protocol.

31. (Original) The network according to Claim 30, wherein the translator is based on XML.

32. (Original) The network according to Claim 24, wherein the first network is associated with a mobile platform.

33. (Original) The network according to Claim 32, wherein the mobile platform is an aircraft.

34. (Original) The network according to Claim 24, the agent further comprising a validation manager to validate information received from the second network by comparing a protocol associated with the information received from the second network with an XSD schema.

35. (Original) The network according to Claim 24 wherein the first protocol is custom to the first network.